

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of taking a dental impression comprising the steps of:
2 selecting a dual arch impression tray comprising a frame and a membrane supported on and
3 integral with said frame, wherein the dual arch impression tray is suitable for taking an impression
4 of the oral structure of interest;
5 applying a quantity of immobilizing agent to the frame of tray, wherein the immobilizing
6 agent is not the impression material to be used to take the impression;
7 applying an impression material to both sides of the membrane;
8 placing the tray along with the impression material in the patient's oral cavity;
9 allowing the impression material to cure sufficiently; and
10 removing the impression and tray from the mouth.

- 1 2. The method of Claim 1 comprising the further step of facilitating the immobilizing agent's
2 cure by shining a curing light on it.

- 1 3. The method of Claim 1 comprising the further step of facilitating the immobilizing agent's
2 cure by applying a chemical.

- 1 4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the immobilizing agent is a filler and the chemical is an
2 adhesive.

1 5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the immobilizing agent is a plastic and comprising the
2 further step of heating the plastic.

1 6. The method of Claim 1 comprising the further step of facilitating the immobilizing agent's
2 cure by applying an adhesive.

1 7. The method of Claim 1 comprising the further step of facilitating the immobilizing agent's
2 cure by exposing it to air or moisture.

1 8. The method of Claim 1 wherein the frame has a channel or tube extending through it and
2 comprising the further step of filling it with the immobilizing agent.

1 9. The method of Claim 1 wherein the tray comprises an immobilizing agent (other than an
2 impression material) that will cure (or that can be cured) after the patient bites into the impression
3 material.

1 10. A method of taking a dental impression comprising the steps of:
2 selecting a dual arch impression tray suitable for taking an impression of the oral structure
3 of interest that has a frame and a membrane supported on and integral with said frame, and wherein
4 the frame comprises an immobilizing agent that is not the impression material to be used to take the
5 impression;

6 applying an impression material to both sides of the membrane;
7 placing the tray along with the impression material in the patient's oral cavity;
8 allowing the impression material to cure sufficiently; and
9 removing the impression and tray from the mouth.

1 11. The method of Claim 10 comprising the further step of causing the immobilizing material
2 to cure.

1 12. The method of Claim 11 wherein the immobilizing material is cured by the step of shining
2 a curing light on it.

1 13. The method of Claim 11 wherein the immobilizing material is cured by the step of applying
2 a chemical.

1 14. The method of Claim 13 wherein the immobilizing agent is a filler and the chemical is an
2 adhesive.

1 15. The method of Claim 10 wherein the immobilizing agent is a plastic and comprising the
2 further step of heating the plastic.

1 16. The method of Claim 10 wherein the immobilizing agent is a hot thermoplastic.

1 17. The method of Claim 11 comprising the further step of facilitating the immobilizing agent's
2 cure by exposing it to air or moisture.

1 18. A method of taking a dental impression comprising the steps of:

2 inserting a low-profile implant impression transfer post in a dental implant, wherein the low-
3 profile implant impression transfer post has a buccal projection configured to project toward a
4 buccal wall of an appropriately configured impression tray;

5 selecting a dual arch impression tray suitable for taking an impression of the oral structure
6 of interest that has a frame and a membrane supported on and integral with said frame, and wherein
7 the frame comprises an immobilizing agent that is not the impression material to be used to take the
8 impression, and wherein the frame of the tray is configured and arranged to be attachable to the low-
9 profile implant transfer post;

10 applying a quantity of impression material to both sides of the tray's membrane;

11 placing the tray along with the impression material in the patient's oral cavity;

12 affixing the frame to the implant transfer post;

13 allowing the impression material to cure sufficiently; and

14 removing the impression and tray from the mouth.

1 19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the frame is affixed to the low-profile implant impression
2 transfer post intraorally while the impression material is curing.

1 20. The method of Claim 18 wherein the immobilizing agent supporting the frame is cured
2 intraorally before the frame is affixed to the low-profile implant impression transfer post and before
3 the impression material has been cured sufficiently to remove it from the patient's mouth.